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LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE

February 28, 2012

To The Co-Chairs and Members of the Labor & Public Employees Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of ~~HB-5204, AAC~~ *the Establishment of a College Intern Regulatory Board*. This bill was proposed by my constituent Andrew Marsh, in response to his mother's experiences with her student internship. Andrew has shown himself to be a very bright young man and I am happy to assist him here at the General Assembly. Andrew's testimony speaks in greater detail on the circumstances prompting his proposal.

Whether an internship experience is "fair" is subjective. However I believe there could be broad agreement that what happened to Andrew's mother was an unreasonable technicality outside the norm for school internship placements. The ultimate goal for this legislation is to help students gain an equitable return on their tuition investment, by reducing the likelihood of arbitrary outcomes impacting their placement or the resultant credit granted. The bill as it stands would require the Board of Regents for Higher Education to design a plan to establish an administrative hearing board, including an associated cost projection. This is a necessary first step in creating such an entity, especially in our present budget environment that necessitates - more than ever - a justification for every expenditure. I encourage the committee to vote favorably on this bill, so that the Board of Regents may eventually be made to report on the practicability of a college intern regulatory board.

Thank you for your consideration and your time.

Sincerely,

Linda Orange

Rep. Linda Orange